4B

Information/Action

Legislative Committee of the Whole

Items of Interest to the Commission

Executive Summary: Staff will present items of interest to the Commission.

Recommended Action: None—Information

Presenters: Bonnie Parks, Director, External Relations and Business Affairs

Strategic Plan Goal: 2

Continue to refine the coordination between Commissioners and staff in carrying out the Commission's duties, roles and responsibilities.

• Continuously improve the development, distribution and dissemination of agenda and information to the Commission.

SB 428 (Scott) As Amended July 13, 2005

Status: Assembly Appropriations. Hearing cancelled at request of author. SB 428 is now a two-year bill and will be considered in 2006.

Sponsor: Senator Scott

Support: None on file

Opposition: None on file

Fiscal Impact: Annual loss of revenue to the Commission's Test Development and Administration Account of approximately \$600,000.

Bill Summary

SB 428 (Scott) would delete from the Education Code the requirement that individuals pass a basic skills examination, currently the California Basic Educational Skills Test (CBEST), for the purpose of earning a credential, certificate or permit for service in California public schools. The measure maintains the authority of employing school districts to administer a basic skills assessment at their discretion.

Update

The Commission discussed SB 428 at its August 11, 2005, meeting and directed staff to continue to provide technical assistance and participate in discussions with Senator Scott and stakeholders regarding the efficacy of this measure.

On August 15, 2005, Commission staff met with Senator Scott, his staff, and stakeholder representatives to discuss SB 428. Senator Scott decided to make SB 428 a two-year bill for Legislative consideration in 2006. Senator Scott and his staff plan to continue discussions regarding CBEST during the Legislative Interim Recess in October, November and December. Commission staff has offered to continue providing technical assistance.